year so far *i.e.* during 2004-2005, 2005-2006, 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 (till 20th November, 2007). Seven persons have lost their lives in these accidents.

(b) and (c) Use of aircraft in Indian Air Force is constantly reviewed based on operational requirements and other parameters like serviceability, air worthiness, technical and operational life and induction of new advanced aircraft.

Low price of CSD items

893. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consumable items sold in CSD canteens are low in prices or tax exempted;

(b) if so, how much profit Defence has incurred during the last 5 years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a limit has been fixed for purchasing of items by an individual; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Various tax concessions and bulk-buying discounts account for lower prices of the consumables sold in CSD.

(b) The audited net profit earned during the last 5 years for all products, upto financial year 2005-2006, is Rs. 788.51 Crores.

(c) and (d) Limits have been laid down so that whilst genuine needs of an individual are met, bulk purchases due to cheaper rates and diversion of goods to local market are prevented. Limit is planned commensurate with purchasing power of an individual indexed to his pay.

Inquiry into kickbacks in defence purchases

894. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is inquiring into allegations of kickbacks in the purchase of arms, equipments, etc. by Army, Navy and Air force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of arms, ammunition, equipments etc. purchased or deals finalized by Army, Navy and Air Force during the last three years;

(d) the measures taken to plug loopholes in the defence purchase system; and

(e) whether complaints of irregular purchase of computers etc. by Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and other defence establishments have come to the notice of his Ministry and if so, the action taken against the guilty officials for suppressing the true facts?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Whenever any allegation of corruption in defence deals is received, the same is seriously looked into by the Ministry and wherever considered necessary, the case is referred to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). At present there are six cases at Regular Case and five at Preliminary Enquiry stage with CBI.

(c) It will not be in the interest of National Security to disclose the details relating to procurement of Arms, Ammunitions, equipments, etc. for Armed Forces.

(d) Government has laid down elaborate procedures for procurement of defence equipments, weapons and stores. In addition, the guidelines prescribed by Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) are also followed. The procedures prescribed include Defence Procurement Procedure 2006 for capital acquisition and Defence Procurement Manual 2006 for revenue purchase. These procedures are also reviewed periodically.